

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2019

ARKANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A. M. Commissioners present:

Vice Chairman Percy Wilburn

Lt. Staci Rhoads

Mr. Barry Phillips

Mr. Thomas Marsh

Mr. Richard Wingard

Absent:

Chief Bob Harrison

Mr. Barney Reeves

Dr. Jim Golden

Others present:

Jami Cook, Director

Fred Weatherspoon, Deputy Director, Training

Brad King, Deputy Director, Standards

Amanda Yarbrough, CLEST Attorney

Charles Moulton, Hearing Officer

Bonnie Parker Court Reporter

Sue Albritton, CLEST Admin. Assist.

Drew Miller, Attorney

John Schroder, Garland Co. SO

Michael Watson, Haskell Police Dept.

Stephanie Nehus, Hot Springs School District

Carl Seymour, Hot Springs School District

Darren Williams, Arkansas Children's Hospital

Tamara Taylor, Hardy PD

Jason Creasey, Hardy

Jon Munz, Glenwood

Susan Munz, Glenwood

Skylar Munz, Glenwood

James Turner, Encounter Church

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Bobby Smith, Glenwood

Dicky Johnson, ACC

James Graves, Bella Vista PD

Scott Vanatta, Bella Vista PD

James Morgan, Centeron

G. Pop, Benton Co. SO

Mike Kugler, Bentonville

Tim Cook, Bella Vista PD

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A. M. by Vice Chairman Wilburn. A motion to accept the minutes of the last two meetings was made by Commissioner Marsh and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Minutes accepted.

Item I: Item one was a request from the Hot Springs School District requesting to establish its own police Department. A motion was made by Commissioner Phillips to grant the request and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried.

Item II: Item two was a request from the Garland County Sheriff's Office for an extension for Deputy Thomas Fox. A motion was made by Commissioner Rhoads to grant the extension and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item III: Item three was a request from the Garland County Sheriff's Office for an extension for Deputy Jeremy Rowland. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Rhoads and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item IV: Item four was a request from Hardy Police Department to reconsider the earlier decision to decertify Jason Creasey. A motion was made not to grant the request by Commissioner Phillips and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item V: Item five was a request from the Springdale Police Department for decertification of Jean Rodriguez. A motion to go forward with decertification was made by Commissioner Marsh and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried.

Item VI: Item six was a request from the Arkansas State Police for decertification of former Trooper Scott Pillow. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

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Item VII: Item seven was a request from the Baxter County Sheriff's Office for decertification of former Deputy Matthew Guthrie. Commissioner Rhoads made a motion to go forward and was seconded by Commissioner Wingard. Motion Carried.

Item VIII: Item eight was a request from the Saline County Sheriff's Office for decertification of former Deputy Jacob Ryan Thomas. Commissioner Marsh made a motion to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. Motion carried.

Item IX: Item nine was a request from the Helena/West Helena Police Department for decertification of former Officer Terry Daugherty. Commissioner Marsh made a motion not to go forward with decertification. Commissioner Phillips seconded and the motion carried.

Item X: Item ten was a request from the Green forest Police Department for decertification of former Officer Austin Young. Commissioner Phillips made a motion to go forward and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XI: Item eleven was a request from the Benton County Sheriff's Office for decertification of former Deputy Randall McElroy. Commissioner Rhoads made a motion to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried.

Item XII: Item twelve was a request from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office for decertification of former deputy Christopher Brownlow. Commissioner Marsh made the motion to go forward with decertification and was seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried.

Item XIII: Item thirteen was a request from Darren Williams for the Commission to withdraw his 2014 decertification. Commissioner Rhoads made a motion to deny the request and Commissioner Wingard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Item XIV: Item fourteen was a request from the Glenwood Police Department asking the Commission to withdraw the 2000 decertification of Jon Munz. Commissioner Rhoads made the motion to grant the request and allow Mr. Munz to enter back into law enforcement. Commissioner Marsh seconded and the motion carried.

Item XV: Item fifteen was to set the meeting dates for the year 2020. January 9th, April 9th, July 9 and October 8th were the suggested dates. Commissioner Phillips made the motion to accept the dates and was seconded by Commissioner Wingard. Motion Carried.

Item XVI: Item sixteen was pulled until the January meeting.

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Item XVII: Item seventeen was a request from the Haskell Police Department for and extension for Officer Leanna Shoptaw who was medically withdrawn for the Central ALETA Basic Class 19-B. A motion was made by Commissioner Marsh and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads to grant the request. Motion carried.

At the conclusion of the meeting, decertification hearings were held with Attorney Charles Moulton presiding and Court Reporter Bonnie Parker. Two consent agreements were presented for **Christopher Hunt and Todd Shannon**. A motion to accept the agreements was made by Commissioner Phillips and was seconded by Commissioner Rhoads. The motion carried. The uncontested hearings were as follows: **William Hoolapa, Justin Jones, Scottie Arrington, Sherman W. Petty, Clint Vaughan, Kevin Koonce and Cory Griffith**. Commissioner Rhoads made a motion to decertify the uncontested hearings and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. Contested hearings were held for **Michael Kugler, Steven Bowen and James Morgan**. After hearing the testimonies and evidence presented, **Michael Kugler** and **Steven Bowen** were decertified with a motion by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Wingard. Motion carried. After the evidence presented and hearing the testimony given, a motion was made by Commissioner Phillips not to decertify **James Morgan** and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. Mr. Morgan was not decertified.

Director's Report:

Director Cook reported that the final proposed rules had been presented to and approved by the Administrative Rules Committee and would be filed with the Secretary of State and Arkansas State Library within a few days. Ms. Cook asked for approval of the \$5,000 Officer Memorial Fund for Stone County Deputy Mike Stephen's family. Commissioner Rhoads made a motion to approve the funding and was seconded by Commissioner Marsh. Motion carried. Ms. Cook attended the memorial service and presented the check to Ms. Stephen. Director Cook announced that graduation of NW ALETA Basic Training Class 2019-C would be on November 15th and that Director Kermit Channel would be the guest speaker. ALETA Basic Class graduation would be held on December 13th with US Attorney Dak Kees as the guest speaker. Central ALETA Basic Class 2019-B would be held on December 20th with Director A. J. Gary as speaker. "Missing Person" class required by Act 920 was launched at the Attorney General's Never Forgotten event on 7/18. At this time 2900 had taken the training on line and 175 attended the class. An advanced class is being developed.